


Examiner's technical rejection raised in the Office Action dated November 24, 1999. It is also respectfully submitted that all presently pending claims are patentably distinct over the disclosures of record when the disclosures are considered either alone under 35 U.S.C. §102 or §103 or in any appropriate combination under 35 U.S.C. §103 for the reasons set forth in the Amendment dated March 30, 1999. It is further respectfully submitted that all currently pending claims are in conformance with 35 U.S.C. §112.

As a result of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application and all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, early passage of the above-reference application for U.S. patent to issuance is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit overpayments or charge all fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and §1.17 at the large entity status rate, including any and all necessary or required extension of time fees to file this or other papers in the above-identified application for U.S. patent, to Deposit Account No. 50-0951/32892.00023(Kos). A duplication of this paper is submitted herewith.

Should the Examiner have any questions or require additional information or clarification, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the attorney of record Peter J. Manso, at the phone numbers noted below.

Respectfully Submitted,


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May 24, 2000

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